

North Carolina's school districts, public schools and charter schools receive web-based reporting through the Education Value-Added Assessment System (EVAAS). EVAAS offers an objective way to measure student progress and the value schools add to students' educational attainment. EVAAS is a statistical analysis of North Carolina (NC) state assessment data, and the system provides NC schools with growth data to consider, in addition to achievement data. Educators are able to make data-informed instructional decisions to ensure academic growth and achievement of all students by using EVAAS. The information provided in this FAQ is designed to provide information to the public regarding the use of EVAAS growth measures for school accountability. Educators looking for information on the use of EVAAS should refer to documentation available on the restricted website.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between achievement and growth?

What is value-added assessment?

What is EVAAS?

What are the benefits of EVAAS?

What is available for the public to review?

What specific types of EVAAS reporting are available to systems/schools?

What is the difference between achievement and growth data?

Achievement

- Measures a student's performance at one single point in time
- Correlates with a student's demographics
- Compares student performance to a standard
- Is critical to a student's post-secondary opportunities

Growth

- Measures a student's growth across time (i.e., across years)
- Is not related to student demographics
- Compares a student's performance to his/her own prior performance
- Is critical to ensuring a student's future academic success

What is value-added assessment?

Value-added is a statistical analysis used to measure the impact of districts, schools and teachers on the academic progress rates of groups of students from year-to-year. A value-added score is calculated in the following manner:

- Growth = Current Achievement compared to all Prior Achievement that is measured by a quality assessment, such as the end-of-grade (EOG) or end-of-course (EOC) assessments.
- The methodology used by EVAAS has been published since 1997, and it has been reviewed and validated by a number of value-added experts. One review completed by WestEd for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction can be accessed at <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/effectiveness-model/evaas/selection/>.

What is EVAAS?

EVAAS is a statistical analysis of student assessment data, such as the EOG and EOC assessments, over time. It provides districts and their schools with growth data to consider, in addition to achievement data. This lens of measuring student learning provides educators with information to help ensure they are meeting the academic needs of cohorts of students, as well as individual students.

EVAAS value-added reporting is available through a web application, which includes additional data and reporting so that educators and administrators can gain additional insight into their educational practices.

What are the benefits of EVAAS?

EVAAS provides a way to measure student progress and the influence North Carolina's public schools have on a students' educational experience. EVAAS allows educators to:

- Monitor the growth of all groups of students from low-achieving to high-achieving, ensuring growth opportunities for all students.
- Make informed, data-driven decisions about where to focus resources to help students make greater progress and perform at higher levels.
- Collaborate with other systems/schools that may yield different growth results.

What EVAAS information is available for the public to review?

EVAAS, in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, provides a School-wide Accountability Growth Composite. This growth composite provides information on how the school is performing overall on EOG and EOC assessments administered in a school. EVAAS also provides a graphing tool called scatterplots, which enables comparison among districts and schools on a variety of metrics, such as growth, achievement and demographics.

What specific types of EVAAS reporting are available to districts and schools through the restricted website?

EVAAS provides two types of information, value-added (or growth) data on cohorts of students and student-level projection data.

The value-added, or growth, reporting analyzes data from previous years and helps schools evaluate how much cohorts of students have gained in a school year.

The projection data uses the data already analyzed to help schools look to the future by answering question such as: What is the likelihood that a student will be proficient on a future EOG, EOC, or college readiness exam? This data can be used for student intervention and resource allocation.

EVAAS is available for the following test areas:

- English language arts and math in grades four through eight
- Science in grades five and eight
- Math I, English II, and Biology
- The ACT, SAT, PSAT, AP
- Many of the Career and Technical Education Post-Assessments (CTE), and many of the NC Final Exams (formerly known as Common Exams)

EVAAS is one of the many tools provided to systems from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Districts and schools are using EVAAS in conjunction with achievement data to make sure all students are working toward proficiency and college- and career-readiness.

Additional items to be placed on public site for information and access (Just wording below, not sure what layout will be.)

Scatterplots

Interactive graphing tool that enables the user to plot a specific school or district profile as well as compare among many schools and districts. The user may assess student achievement or growth using a variety of demographic variables to ensure that all subgroups experience optimum educational outcomes.

School Search

Allows the user to find and view the achievement and growth of schools across North Carolina.